

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace original Figures 5 and 14 with amended Figures 5 and 14 of the attached replacement sheets.

In Figures 5 and 14, the reference labels “3” have been amended to --2--, while the reference labels “2” have been amended to --3--.

Attachments: 2 Replacement Sheets (Figures 5 and 14)

2 Annotated Sheets (Figures 5 and 14)

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for reviewing and considering the present application. Applicants also express gratitude to the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and confirming receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents. In addition, Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the material cited in the Information Disclosure Statements of December 14, 2004, February 23, 2005, and December 8, 2005. Applicants also thank the Examiner for accepting the drawings. The Office Action dated March 22, 2006, has been received and reviewed.

Further, Applicants submit that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed on April 28, 2006. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return a signed copy of the Information Disclosure Statement of April 28, 2006 confirming consideration of the material cited therein.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 15-17, 29, 32-35, and 38 are hereby amended to enhance the clarity thereof. Claims 23-25 and 30-31 are canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1-22, 26-29, and 32-40 are currently pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, there is a claim objection to claim 29 for failing to limit the subject matter of the previous claim.

Applicants have amended claim 29. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the claim objection to claim 29.

Claims 1-14, 16-17, 32, and 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite, particularly the recitation of “fastening parts.”

Applicants have amended the claims to enhance the clarity thereof. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection.

Claims 1, 7, 15, 16, 18-20, 26 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,266,855, issued to *Smith et al.* (hereinafter “*Smith*”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least a “a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part, and a stator fastening part extended in a radial direction from the bearing supporting part, wherein both of the bearing supporting part and the stator fastening part are inserted in a tub rear wall, while stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part are exposed.” Claim 7 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least “a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part inserted in the tub rear wall, and a stator fastening part formed as a unit with the bearing supporting part extended from the bearing supporting part exposed to an outside of the tub, with stator fastening holes formed in an exposed part of the stator fastening part.” Claim 15 recites a drum type washing machine comprising “a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part, and a stator fastening part extended in a radial direction from the bearing supporting part, wherein both of the bearing supporting part and the stator fastening part are inserted in a tub rear wall, while stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part are exposed.”

Applicants submit that *Smith* fails to disclose at least the above-mentioned features, as recited in the claims.

More specifically, the Office asserts that space tube 40 of *Smith* “reads on Applicants’ claim of a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing support part.” See page 4 of the Office Action.

Applicants submit that space tube 40, as disclosed by *Smith*, fails to anticipate or render obvious these claimed features at least since space tube 40 is not “inserted in a tub rear wall,” as recited in the claims. In contrast, *Smith* discloses that spacing tube 40 encircles drive shaft 11.

As such, *Smith* does not disclose or suggest that the spacing tube 40 is inserted in a tub rear wall. Moreover, as illustrated in at least Figure 2, *Smith* illustrates that the spacing tube 40 is spaced from an exterior of the container base molding 29.

In addition, *Smith* fails to disclose at least “stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part” of the bearing housing, as recited in the claims. In contrast, *Smith* discloses that the bearing frames 32, 33 have an external angle 36 in which the inner corner of the stator 25 fits with an interference fit. See *Smith* at column 5, lines 47-58. However, there is no indication that the bearing housing includes stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part, as required by the claims.

Applicants further submit that screw 71 is not a stator fastening part of a bearing housing. Rather, as illustrated in Figure 5, *Smith* discloses that screw 71 fixes a short cylinder of steel 70 to the upper frame 32. See *Smith* at column 7, lines 58-61.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 7, and 15 are patentable and request that the rejection be withdrawn. Likewise, claims 16, 18-20 and 26, which depend from at least one of claims 1, 7, and 15 are also patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

Furthermore, claim 38 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least a stator that includes “fastening parts formed as a unit with the insulator, having fastening holes projected toward an inside of the helical type core for fastening the stator to the bearing housing.” Claims 1 and 7 recite similar features for fastening parts.

Applicants submit that *Smith* fails to disclose at least these claimed features. In contrast, *Smith* discloses that the bearing frames 32, 33 have an external angle 36 in which the inner corner of the stator 25 fits with an interference fit. However, there is no indication that the stator

includes fastening parts formed with the insulator, having fastening holes...for fastening the stator to the bearing housing, as recited in claim 38. See *Smith* at column 5, lines 47-58.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 38, as well as claims 1 and 7 are patentable and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 2-6, 8-14, 17, 21-25, 27-37, 39, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Smith*.

Applicants submit that claims 2-3, 8-10, 17, 21-25, and 39-40 are patentable for at least depending upon claim 1, 7, 15 or 38, which Applicants have shown to be allowable.

Further, Applicants submit that *Smith* fails to anticipate or render obvious the combination features recited in at least claims 4, 11, and 27.

For example, claim 4 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least a “bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part, and a stator fastening part extended in a radial direction from the bearing supporting part, wherein both of the bearing supporting part and the stator fastening part are inserted in a tub rear wall, while stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part are exposed” and a stator that includes “fastening parts, formed with the insulator, having three or more than three fastening holes at portions of the fastening parts projected toward an inside of the helical type core for fastening the stator to the bearing housing.”

Claim 11 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least “a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part inserted in the tub rear wall, and a stator fastening part formed as a unit with the bearing supporting part extended in a radial direction from the bearing supporting part exposed to an outside of the tub, with stator fastening holes formed in an exposed part of the stator fastening part” and a stator that includes “fastening parts, formed as a unit with the insulator, having three or more than three fastening holes at portions of

the fastening parts projected toward an inside of the helical type core for fastening the stator to the bearing housing.”

Claim 27 recites a drum type washing machine comprising at least “a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing supporting part inserted in the tub rear wall, and a stator fastening part formed as a unit with the bearing supporting part extended in a radial direction from the bearing supporting part exposed to an outside of the tub, with stator fastening holes formed in an exposed part.”

Applicants submit that *Smith* fails to disclose at least the above-mentioned features, as recited in the claims.

More specifically, the Office asserts that space tube 40 of *Smith* “reads on Applicants’ claim of a bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing support part.” See page 4 of the Office Action.

Applicants submit that space tube 40, as disclosed by *Smith*, fails to anticipate or render obvious the claimed bearing housing having a sleeve form of bearing support part at least since space tube 40 is not “inserted in a tub rear wall,” as recited in the claims. In contrast, *Smith* discloses that spacing tube 40 encircles drive shaft 11. *Smith* does not disclose or suggest that the spacing tube 40 is inserted in a tub rear wall. Moreover, as illustrated in at least Figure 2, *Smith* illustrates that the spacing tube is spaced from an exterior of the container base molding 29.

In addition, *Smith* fails to disclose at least “stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part” of the bearing housing, as recited in the claims. In contrast, *Smith* discloses that the bearing frames 32, 33 has an external angle 36 in which the inner corner of the stator 25 fits with an interference fit. See *Smith* at column 5, lines 47-58. However, there is no indication that the

bearing housing includes stator fastening holes in the stator fastening part, as required by the claims.

Applicants further submit that screw 71 is not a stator fastening part of a bearing housing. Rather, as illustrated in Figure 5, *Smith* discloses that screw 71 fixes a short cylinder of steel 70 to the upper frame 32. See *Smith* at column 7, lines 58-61.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4, 11, and 27 are patentable and request that the rejection be withdrawn. Likewise, claims 5-6, 12-14, 28-29, and 32-37, which depend from at least one of claims 4, 11, and 27 are also patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above.

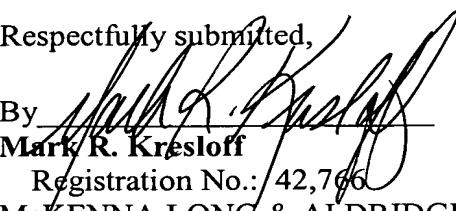
This application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicants' representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: June 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By


Mark R. Kresloff

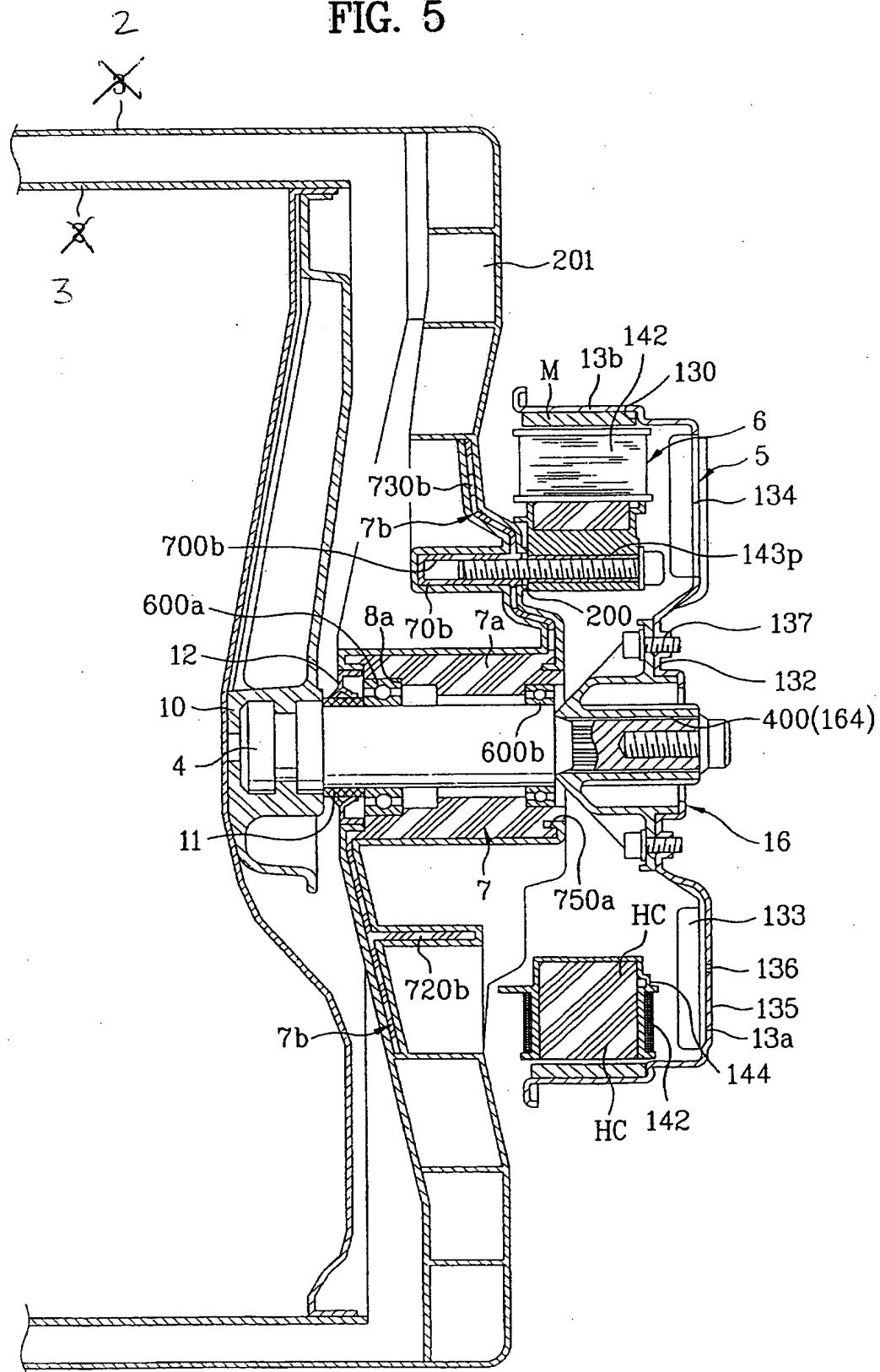
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ANNOTATED SHEET
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FIG. 5



ANNOTATED SHEET
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FIG. 14

